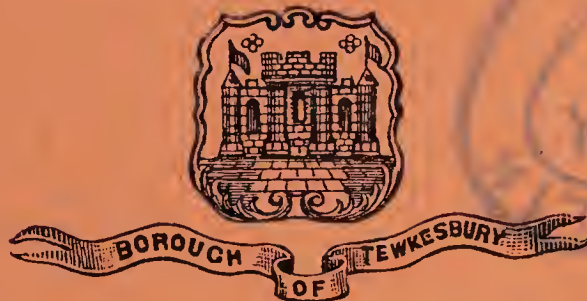


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Annual Report

ON THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT
for the Year 1949

BY

M. L. SUTCLIFFE, T.D., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

*To the Mayor,
Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Tewkesbury*

BOROUGH OF TEWKESBURY

Mr. Mayor, Mrs. Wyatt and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report on the Hygiene Conditions and Vital Statistics of the Borough for the year 1949.

It includes the report of the Sanitary Inspector and is compiled to conform with Articles 6 (3) and 17 (5) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and it incorporates the requirements of the Ministry of Health Circular 2/50 dated 25th January, 1950. In accordance with para 13 of the above circular, the distribution of this report is a wide one and includes :—

The Ministry of Health.

The County Medical Officer of Health.

The Ministry of Food.

The Ministry of Town and Country Planning.

The Ministry of Labour and National Service.

For several months of the year I was on sick leave owing to a War Disability, and I should like to thank Dr. R. C. Cunningham, Senior Assistant County Medical Officer of Health, for kindly carrying out my duties during my absence, and also the County medical Officer of Health for making him available.

During the year there have been major changes in the County Medical Administration following the passing of the National Health Service Act, and on September 1st, 1949, I took over additional duties as Divisional Medical Officer for No. 5 Division which comprises the same Districts as those for which I am Medical Officer of Health. This has reduced the time I spend as Medical Officer of Health by a half, and consequently considerably more responsibility and work is thrown on the Sanitary Inspector.

The health of the Borough has generally remained good. The infantile mortality rate is, unfortunately, higher than normal but against this can be credited a high birth rate which is 50% higher than that for England and Wales.

A very satisfactory feature is that for the 5th consecutive year there have been no deaths of mothers in child-birth.

The figures for diphtheria immunisation show in some respects an improvement on last year there being an increase of nearly 5% in the total number of children under 15 who have been immunised. There has been no case of diphtheria in the Borough since 1946. The position with regard to Tuberculosis also shows a slight improvement.

I should like to thank the Mayor, the Chairman of the Public Health Committee and the Councillors for their co-operation and also the Corporation Officials and staff for their assistance. In this latter connection, I should specially like to mention the help from the Borough Surveyor's Department during the Sanitary Inspector's absence on sick leave.

The Report shows the varied work carried out by the Sanitary Inspector, to whom I am much indebted for his assistance in its compilation.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

M. L. SUTCLIFFE,

Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1950.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF OF THE AUTHORITY.

M. L. SUTCLIFFE, T. D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.P.M., Medical Officer of Health. Medical Officer of Health to the Borough of Tewkesbury, Gloucester Rural and Newent Rural (Medical Officer of Health) Committees and Assistant County Medical Officer of Health for Gloucestershire. Divisional Medical Officer to Gloucester Area Sub-Committee.

J. STIRLING, C.R.S.A. (Scotland), M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Meat and Other Foods and Inspector under the Petroleum (Consolidation) Acts.

Adoptive Legislation in force in the Borough.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 (Section 1) adopted 1st January, 1934.

Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 75)—Provision of Regulation Dustbins—adopted 21st March, 1938.

Bye-Laws.

Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar structures — adopted 1st November, 1938.

Building Bye-laws—adopted 18th March, 1940.

Handling, etc., and Sale of Food in the Open Air—(being adopted).

VITAL STATISTICS.

These statistics give particulars as to the births and deaths in the Borough, together with certain rates which are compared, where possible, with those for England and Wales.

A detailed list of the cause of death will be found in Table 25.

Table 1 Infantile Births and Deaths

	Legitimate			Illegitimate			Com- bin'd Total
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
Live Births ...	62	55	117	4	4	8	125
Still Births ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age ...	3	5	8	—	—	—	8

Table 2 Deaths

Total Deaths	Male 39	Female 36	Total 75
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Deaths included in the above from—

Measles (all ages) ...	—
Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	—
Diarrhoea, under (2 years of age) ...	1
Puerperal Sepsis ...	—
Other Maternal causes ...	—

Table 3 Birth and Death Rates

	Borough of Tewkesbury	England and Wales
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	24.4	16.7
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population	0.19	0.39
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	14.6	} 11.7
*Corrected „ „ „ „	12.5	
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year per 1000 live births ...	64.0	32.0
Death Rate of Legitimate Infants per 1000 Legitimate Live Births ...	64.0	} not available
Death Rate of Illegitimate Infants per 1000 Illegitimate Live Births ...	Nil	
Death Rate from Puerperal Causes per 1000 total births ...	Nil	
		0.98

***Note.**—The Corrected Death Rate is obtained by multiplying the Crude Death Rate by the factor 0.86. This factor is supplied by the Registrar-General and serves to make the Crude Death Rate for the Borough comparable, from the mortality point of view, with the Death Rate for the country as a whole, or with the mortality of any other area, the Crude Death Rate of which has been similarly modified.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

Area (in acres) 2651 (including 96 acres of water).

Population (Registrar General's estimate of resident population mid-1949), 5,111.

Number of inhabited Houses (December 31st, 1949) according to rate books, 1,584.

Rateable Value (December 31st, 1949), £30,043.

Sum represented by a penny rate, £134 (gross).

Social Conditions and Chief Industries.

Tewkesbury is a town of great historical and architectural interest. The Abbey, the many fine examples of old half-timbered houses and the excellent boating on the rivers attract visitors in large numbers and the provision of hospitality for these is the town's largest industry. Otherwise, the Borough is mainly residential in character, although, as will be seen from the sub-joined list, it supports a number of industries which employ a large proportion of the town's labour force.

Major employers of labour in the Borough :—

Catering and Allied Trades ...	...	...	300
C.O.V.D. (R.A.O.C.) Ashchurch ...	...	...	250
The Borough Flour Mills ...	...	...	126
Avon Works (Boat Builders)...	...	...	40
H. A. Blackwell & Sons Ltd. ...	...	...	45
Collins & Godfrey Ltd. (Builders) ...	...	...	60
Other smaller factories (probably employing less than 20 persons) ...	...	...	175

Unemployment.

The following figures are supplied by the courtesy of the Manager of the Employment Exchange :—

Maximum number unemployed in any month was 34 (May—29 males and 5 females).

Minimum number unemployed in any month was 8 (January—6 males and 2 females).

In 1948 the maximum and minimum occurred in April and October and the numbers unemployed were 21 (19 males and 2 females) and 5 (all males) respectively. This compares with April, 1947, when there were 72 unemployed on the register.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH.

Laboratory Facilities.

There have been some major changes since I reported on these facilities in detail in my report for 1947 and bacteriological and chemical examination and analyses of Public Health Samples and Medical Specimens are now carried out as follows :—

(i) WATER ANALYSES.

- (a) Samples taken by this Department. Borough Analyst (Rowland H. Ellis Esq., F.R.I.C., F.C.S.)
- (b) Samples taken by the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board ; Resident Chemist, Purification Works, Tewkesbury.

(ii) MILK ANALYSES.

All samples taken by this Department for the purposes of bacteriological examination, tuberculosis, Methylene Blue Test and Phosphatase Test are dealt with at the Pathological Laboratory, Gloucester Royal Infirmary.

(iii) ICE CREAM.

- (a) Bacteriological — Pathological Laboratory, Gloucester Royal Infirmary.
- (b) Fat Content — R. H. Ellis, Esq., Borough Analyst.

(iv) SEWAGE.

All examinations are carried out by the Borough Analyst.

(v) PATHOLOGICAL AND MEDICAL SPECIMENS.

These, including specimens from cases of suspected food poisoning are examined at the Pathological Laboratory Gloucester Royal Infirmary.

Note.—Charges for examinations and analyses by the County Analyst are as reported in my Report for 1947. No charge is made for samples analysed at the Royal Infirmary and this will result in a financial saving to the Borough Council.

Hospitals.

The Council have no responsibility for hospital treatment, as hospitals are now under the South Western Regional Hospital Board. Infectious disease cases are admitted, when necessary to Over Isolation Hospital, and arrangements have been perfectly satisfactory during the year.

Ambulance Facilities.

There has been no change during the year. The local station in Mill Street has been well-maintained and staffed by four full-time drivers. Infectious cases continue to be transported in the ambulance from the Over Isolation Hospital.

Nursing in the Home.

The two District Nurses who undertake midwifery and general nursing in the Borough and the Parishes of Ashchurch, Tredington and Twynning work under the County Health Committee while the local Voluntary Association supervises secretarial and nurses welfare matters.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

1. CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.

This centre was held fortnightly, but since 10th November, 1949, has, owing to the large attendance, been held weekly. It is held in the Town Hall and is managed by the local Voluntary Committee which also arranges social services in connection with the clinic. The County Health Committee remains responsible for staff and supplies. The work done by the Voluntary Committee is invaluable and is very much appreciated.

The work done at the Centre is shown below :—

No. of Sessions	No. of New Children in 1949		No. of Children on Register at end of year		Total No. Attendances during year	
	Under 1	Over 1	Under 1	Over 1	Under 1	Over 1
30	104	27	144	73	1005	583

2. SCHOOL CLINIC.

The County Health Visitor attends daily during term-time at the Clinic attached to the Municipal Offices from 9 to 9.30 a.m. and a doctor attends on Thursday mornings at 10.0 a.m.

3. ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC.

This is held weekly on Thursdays at the Tewkesbury Hospital, where a Specialist visits quarterly, or as required.

4. OPHTHALMIC AND EAR, NOSE AND THROAT CLINICS.

These are held at the School Clinic as required.

5. CHEST CLINIC.

This is held at the Hospital if necessary, but most cases are seen by appointment at the Cheltenham Dispensary.

6. ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

This is held weekly on Wednesday afternoons at the Clinic at the Municipal Offices.

Mortuaries.

As from 1st January, 1950, the Council Mortuary in Tolsey Lane has been closed and arrangements have been made with the Cheltenham Hospital Group Management Committee to have the use of the Hospital Mortuary in Barton Road for a payment of £1/5/0 for each case admitted.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Suplies.

MAIN SUPPLIES.

Water is supplied in bulk to the Corporation by the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board, whose purification works are in the Borough.

The process of purification of the water which is drawn from the River Severn consists of sedimentation with alum, rapid sand filtration and chloramination.

Supplies are ample [REDACTED] Regular analyses, both chemical and bacteriological, are carried out and the results shown in Table 4 were supplied by the courtesy of the Resident Chemist (J. Henderson, Esq., B.Sc., F.R.I.C.)

Table 4

SUPPLY	Bacteriological Analyses		Chemical Analyses	
	Satis.	Unsatis.	Satis.	Unsatis.
Raw river water	—	51	—	549
Treated river water	226	—	1205	—
Domestic	465	—	559	—

Main Water Supplies in the Borough.

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health Circular 2/50, Table 5 shows the number of houses and population served on 31st December, 1949.

Table 5

No of houses with main supply in house. (estimated)	Pop.	No. of Houses served by stand pipes (estimated)	Pop.
1228	3930	343	1122

New connections to public mains during the year—19.

Extensions of mains during the year :—Approximately 200 yards were laid during the year to provide for the two new Housing Schemes authorised for 1949.

Well Supplies.

During the year, one house (20 Church Street) previously dependent on well supplies was connected to the mains, and Table 6 shews the houses in the Borough without main water.

Table 6

Address	Water Supply	No. of Houses	Population Served
106 Church Street ...	Business Premises only		
10 East Street ...	Well	1	6
1 Trinity Walk ...	"	1	3
Perry Hill Gardens ...	"	1	3
Park Farm Cottages ...	"	2	8
Rayer's Hill Cottages ...	"	1	3
Tewkesbury Park ...	"	2	8
The Mythe Hook ...	River	3	8
Upper Lode Locks ...	"	5	18
Avon Lock Cottage ...	"	1	2
Total ...		17	59

At the latter six addresses no main supplies are at present available and even with some of the others the cost would be excessive and considerably above the £20 which is all the Council can insist on an owner expending in connecting up to main supplies. (Section 138, Public Health Act, 1936).

The fact that only 17 houses ~~on the outskirts~~ of the Borough are without main water is, however, quite satisfactory.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The Borough Surveyor reports :

Sewerage.

During 1949 the design of the new sewage works for the town were completed by the Council's Consultant Engineer and approved by the Council. The plans were then forwarded to the Ministry of Health.

The final scheme will comprise modern works on the south side of Lower Lode Lane to which the whole of the sewage of the town will be pumped from a station on the site of the existing works fronting Gloucester Road and Lower Lode Lane. A new pumping station will ultimately be constructed at Newtown and lengths of sewers laid to accommodate housing and industrial development which, it is intended, will take place in the Newtown Area and the Bredon Road.

The tanks at the existing sewage works have been cleaned every three months.

Public Cleansing.

A weekly collection has been maintained throughout the year. Tipping of refuse has proceeded at the Swilgate except for a period of four months (July—October) when tipping was carried out at Walton Cardiff on land adjoining the Newtown Pumping Station.

Salvage collections proceeded normally until September when the reduction in the price paid for waste paper fell considerably and the demand practically ceased. Collection from private houses was discontinued but a collection from business premises is still carried out and disposed of by burning to save trouble at the refuse tip.

(Signed) F. BROXTON, *Surveyor.*

Refuse Receptacles.

Considerable improvement has been noted in the supply position and many defective containers were renewed during the year.

Latrine Accommodation.

A number of owners have taken advantage of the raised limit for unlicensed building work and many obsolete types of closets were replaced by modern ones. Many of these older types were not supplied with flushing facilities. Advantage is taken whenever works are necessary to have cisterns fitted.

Public Lavatories.

The position has been greatly improved by the opening of the new conveniences in Tolsey Lane in June and fills a long felt need near the Cross. The Urinal in Smith's Lane which was available to the public by arrangement with the owners of the adjacent licensed premises has now been converted and closed to the general public.

Plans are in an advanced stage for the provision of further accommodation near the main 'bus stop at the Crescent in Church Street. Alterations have also been approved for the Gloucester Road Car Park Conveniences. When these proposals have been carried out facilities in the Borough should be adequate.

There have been no other changes in the facilities detailed in my Report for 1948.

Public Baths.

There has been no change during the year.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There has been no change during the year but owing to the possible danger of bathing in contaminated rivers the Council has decided to remove all public notices with regard to swimming in the Rivers Severn and Avon. There is now no place for swimming or bathing which can be recommended nearer than Cheltenham.

Rivers and Streams.

During the year nine samples were taken from the two Rivers at various points and times. All received adverse reports from the County Analyst who gave as his opinion that the rivers were not fit for bathing purposes. The results of the samples indicate that the Rivers are polluted before reaching the Borough while further pollution takes place during their passage through the town. This emphasises the need not only for the Borough to improve its sewage effluent, but also for towns which discharge their effluents into the rivers above Tewkesbury. This is of considerable importance in the case of the River Severn, from which the Borough, the City of Gloucester and the Borough of Cheltenham are mainly dependent for their water supplies.

The responsibilities of this Council and of the County Council under the Rivers Pollution Prevention Act, 1876, are being taken over by the River Severn Board on 31st March, 1950, a newly created Authority under the River Boards Act, 1948.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE BOROUGH.

A summary of the work carried out by the Public Health Department is tabulated below :—

Table 7

	No. of Inspections	Notices Served		Defects remea'd after Notice	
		Info'm'l	Formal	In o'm'	Formal
Dwelling Houses ...	207	78	1	72	1
Cowsheds & Dairies	6	3	—	3	—
Factories, etc. ...	32	10	—	9	—
Bakehouses ...	8	3	—	2	—
Food Premises	243	22	—	18	—
Slaughterhouses	—	None	in use	since	1939
Water Supplies	10	—	1	—	1
Drainage and Sewerage...	73	9	—	9	—
Infectious Disease	21	Disin-	fection	carried out	
			wh	ere ne	cessary
Miscellaneous	310	10	—	10	—
Total	910	135	2	123	2

The number of inspections is less than last year owing to your Sanitary Inspector's sick leave for nearly two months and his being on light duty for a further two months.

Shops Acts, 1912-45.

The Council's part-time Inspector for the administration of these Acts with regard to closing time reports that no serious infringements have taken place and legal action was not necessary.

Offensive Trades.

Two Rag and Bone Dealers operate in the Back of Avon and St. Mary's Lane. No complaints have been received.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911-1928.

There is no trade requiring any action under these Acts in this Borough.

Petroleum (Consolidation) Acts, 1928-1936.

These Acts are administered by the Sanitary Inspector. Twelve licences were issued for the storage of petrol and two for the storage of Calcium Carbide. Inspections were carried out and arrangements were found to be satisfactory.

Canal Boats Acts and Regulations, 1877-1925.

No action has been necessary during the year.

Smoke Abatement.

There have been no complaints of excessive smoke in the Borough but grit has caused some nuisance from the main factory in the Borough. This was abated after informal notice.

Common Lodging Houses.

The last Common Lodging House in the Borough was closed in 1939.

Disinfestation. (Bed Bugs, Fleas, etc.)

During the year, 3 cases of infestation by bed bugs and 1 case by fleas were reported and were dealt with by D.D.T. or Gammexane preparations.

All houses from which tenants were re-housed in Council houses were treated where necessary.

During the dry warm summer, flies caused a number of complaints, and advice and treatment was given by this Department.

RODENT CONTROL.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919. Infestation Order, 1943.

The County Pests Department has carried out the work on behalf of the Borough Council.

During the year the following work was carried out :—

PRIVATE DWELLINGS :

11 treatments were made after the receipt of complaints, and where inspection revealed infestation.

BUSINESS PREMISES :

23 payment services were rendered to premises other than private dwellings.

SEWER TREATMENTS :

The sewers received maintenance treatments for rats in May and November, 1949, and the presence of rats was detected on each occasion. The extent, however, was not serious.

REFUSE TIPS, ETC. :

These received attention as required but no large scale infestation was observed.

The County Pests Officer reports that although the sustained treatment of the last few years had, undoubtedly, reduced infestation the position in the Borough cannot be regarded with complacency. As the Pests Department operated under powers delegated from this Council right of entry to search was only conferred on his operators by permission when complaint was made and no systematic inspection was carried out which might reveal many more infestations than those of which complaint had been made.

As from 1st April, 1950, this Council will become responsible for its own organisation for enforcing its duties under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a)	By the Local Authority			
	(i) Temporary Prefabricated	...	...	Nil
	(ii) Permanent Non-traditional	...	...	Nil
	(iii) Permanent Traditional	...	...	10
(b)	By other Local Authorities	...	...	Nil
(c)	By Private Enterprise	...	...	8
TOTAL				18

As envisaged in my report for 1948 there was a big reduction in 1949 in the allocation of houses to be built and in the number completed. The future, however, is better than the above figures might indicate. Of the 1949 programme 24 houses are still under construction (12 x 2 and 12 x 3-bedroomed houses) and should be completed during the first half of 1950. Two private houses are also under construction.

Housing Programme for 1950.

1. Balance of 1949 Allocation.

(a)	Completion of 24 houses as above	...	...	24
(b)	Erection of 24 Cornish Unit Houses	...	...	24
(c)	Completion of two private houses	...	...	2
(d)	Erection of two more private houses	...	...	2

2. Allocation for 1950.

(a)	Erection of 8 x 3 bedroomed traditional	...	...	8
(b)	Erection of extra 20 C.U. Houses	...	...	20
(c)	Erection of 4 private houses	...	...	4
TOTAL				84

The possibility of a further allocation later in 1950 is to be hoped for but even the completion of the above schemes will be a great step forward in Borough Housing.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(a)	(i)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	103
	(ii)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	207
(b)	(i)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (a) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932, etc.	...	...	...	...	3
	(ii)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	9

(c)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. (This number is in addition to those previously reported)	...	...	...	3
(d)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	100

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notice.

(a)	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	72
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a)	Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936	1
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—				
	(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	1
	(ii) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—				
	(a) By Owners	...	...	...	2
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	Nil
(c)	Proceedings under the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 138, and the Water Act, 1945, Section 30 :—				
	(i) Number of houses in which a main water supply was provided after service of formal notices :				
	(a) By Owners.	...	...	...	Nil
	(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	...	...	1
(d)	Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—				
	(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	1
	(ii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Order	...	...	...	Nil
	(iii) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under sub-section (3) of section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	2

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding.

Since 1946, owing to the Council's ambitious and very successful building programme overcrowding in the Borough has decreased considerably but it is impossible to give an accurate figure without an up-to-date survey. This survey was made in Rural Districts in 1945/46 on the instructions of the Ministry of Health, but so far no survey has been required of Urban Districts and towns. This possibly is because a survey of overcrowding in towns would show a very unsatisfactory state of affairs.

5. National Assistance Act, 1948—Section 47.

This Section deals with the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention. It is an unpleasant Section to have to administer ; as, although removal of an old infirm person from his home to an institution may be of benefit to him physically, it may be definitely harmful mentally and psychologically.

Informal action is undoubtedly kinder, as in these cases the patient consents to removal, whereas with formal action, the patient is removed against his will.

Action was proposed in one case but before formal action could be taken the case was removed to hospital.

The Housing Manager reports as follows :—

Re-Housing Progress.

The number of families re-housed during the year was 27, of which 3 were re-housed in requisitioned property and the rest in new houses or houses become vacant.

In addition, 8 transfers of tenancy were made to secure the best use of accommodation available.

Nine huts at Mythe Camp and 2 at Southwick Park are still occupied—a reduction of 2 during the year.

In January, at the request of the Minister of Health, forms were sent out to all applicants for accommodation asking whether they wished to remain on the waiting list. As a result of this investigation, the number of applicants was reduced from over 400 to 300. The list has, however, grown again during the year and at 31st December, 1949, it numbered 378.

The total number of tenancies managed by the Housing Department at 31st December, 1949, was 450 houses and 5 lock-up shops. This represents an increase of 90% in the last three years.

(Miss) K. G. JOHN,
Housing Manager.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supplies.

There are 11 milk producers in the Borough. A large proportion of the milk produced is pasteurised by a local factory and is retailed locally, while the rest is mainly sold to wholesalers for sale outside the Borough.

Milk Producers in the Borough.

Table 8 shews the number of milk producers in the District on October 31st, 1949 (when this Council ceased to have any official interest in milk production) classified according to the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936-1946.

Figures for the previous year are given for comparison.

Table 9

Type of Milk Produced	1948	1949
Non-Designated Milk	7	7
Accredited Milk	2	2
Tuberculin-Tested Milk		
(a) from attested herds ...	—	—
(b) from non-attested herds ...	1	1
Pasteurised Milk	1	1
Total	11	11

Pasteurised Milk.

The privately-owned Pasteurising Depot in the Borough has been enlarged and modernised during the year. The new plant is of the High Temperature Short Time type with a maximum capacity of 1,000 gallons per day. During the 5½ months in which the new plant has been working, an average of 700 gallons of milk per day has been treated.

Milk Sampling.

During the year six samples were taken by this Department.

Accredited Milk	3 samples.	All but one very satisfactory.
Undesignated Milk	2 samples.	Satisfactory.
Pasteurised	1 sample	Satisfactory.

A considerable number of samples were also taken by the County Sampling Officers.

FOOD AND DRUGS (MILK AND DAIRIES) ACT, 1944.

This Act and the Regulations made under it in 1949 which came into force in October 1st, 1949, leads to very considerable changes in the administration of milk production.

Three Ministries are now concerned, *viz* :

Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries—Milk production.

Ministry of Food—Milk distribution.

Ministry of Health—Retail milk sampling and prevention of infectious disease spread by milk.

We must wait to see how the new regulations work out in practice, but the memorandum on safe milk issued in November, 1949, by the Joint Committee of the British Medical Association, and the National Veterinary Medical Association is not very optimistic.

There is a fear that there may be over-lapping, *i.e.*, the sampling of milk from the cow to the consumer is, at various stages, the responsibility of all 3 Ministries. Another feature of the new legislation appears to be that milk is being considered more as an agricultural product, than as a food ; and it must be remembered that, although a very valuable food, it can be dangerous in the spread of infectious disease, and especially dangerous in the spread of tuberculosis. Many Health Authorities may consider it unfortunate that the Ministry of Health is the least important of the 3 Ministries dealing with milk production.

As far as this Council is concerned, the main effects of the new legislation are firstly that the duties of inspection of dairy farm premises now falls on the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries with the exception of inspections in connection with the spread of infectious disease which remains the duty of this Council.

Secondly, more duties fall on the Council with regard to milk sampling because it is not now undertaken as a free service by the County Sampling Officers, while the National Milk Testing Advisory Scheme no longer operates.

Thirdly, additional yearly licences now have to be issued by the Council and these have been issued as follows :—

(i)	Dealers licences for T.T. accredited and non-designated milk	...	...	...	4
(ii)	Supplementary licences for T.T. accredited and non-designated milk	...	...	...	1
(iii)	Dealers licences for Pasteurised and Sterilised milk	...	...	...	1
(iv)	Supplementary licences for Pasteurised and Sterilised milk	...	...	...	—
(v)	Registration of distributors premises, not forming part of a dairy farm	...	...	...	—

ANTHRAX ORDER, 1938. FOOT & MOUTH DISEASE.

There were no confirmed or suspected cases during the year.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

There have been no registered slaughterhouses in the Borough since 1939 and centralised slaughtering is carried out in Cheltenham Abattoir under strict supervision.

Slaughter of Home-fattened Pigs.

When a permit is issued by the Food Office for the slaughter of a pig for home consumption the owner notifies the time and place to this Department so that the Sanitary Inspector may inspect the carcase for fitness for consumption.

Table 9 is included in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular No. 2/50.

Table 9 Carcases inspected and condemned.

	Pigs
No. killed 	94
No. inspected 	28
Diseases excl. Tb.	
(a) Whole carcase condemned 	—
(b) Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned 	—
(c) % No. inspected affected with disease (other than Tb.) 	—
Tuberculosis.	
(a) Whole carcase condemned 	—
(b) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned 	—
(c) % No. inspected affected with tuberculosis 	—

Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

Transport and Handling of Meat.

No complaints were received as to the handling during the year and a special adapted lorry is used for the transport of meat from the Depot in Cheltenham. It was well-maintained during the year.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Notification is made to this Department when hotels, shops or individuals have any food which is suspected of being unsound.

The following table shows the articles dealt with as unfit for human consumption :—

Table 10

Article			Non Preserved	Preserved (tinned)
Meat	...	...	168 lbs.	—
Poultry & Game	...	...	84 „	—
Bacon	...	...	147 „	—
Fish	...	...	460 „	—
Shell-fish	...	...	23 „	—
Fruit	...	...	55 „	—
Miscellaneous Foods	...	...	— „	168 lbs.
Total	...	...	937 lbs.	168 lbs.

A very large proportion of these foods were condemned during July and August and this may have been caused by delay in transit and the hot weather.

Ice Cream.

There are 18 registered retailers of ice cream in the Borough of which 6 manufacture their own while 12 purchase ice cream from wholesalers outside of the Borough.

During the year it was necessary to cancel registration of one manufacturer from whom samples taken were consistently sub-standard.

Improvements to premises and plant continued throughout the year and handling of this product has undoubtedly greatly improved under the stimulus of the Regulations and co-operative advice. Samples showed a big improvement and, while it cannot be said that one may be completely satisfied the progress made is good.

Table 11 shews the results in detail of the samples taken during the year. It will be seen that quite a number of samples are unsatisfactory in connection with one or other of the tests, but it is essential to remember that more samples are taken from manufacturers who are suspected of being below standard than from manufacturers whose samples are usually of a high quality.

Table II

Nature of Ice Cream	Bacteriological Test				Methylene Blue Test				Total Fat Content				Total
	Poor	Fair	Good	V.G.	Poor = 4	Fair = 3	Good = 2	V.G. = 1	0-3%	3-5%	5-7.5%	7.5% plus	
Heat Treated	3	7	1	21	12	4	1	15	2	5	19	6	32
Complete Cold Mix	3	0	0	4	1	1	2	3	3	3	0	1	7
Manufactured Outside	0	0	1	6	1	1	1	4	0	1	0	6	7
Total	6	7	2	31	14	6	4	22	5	1	19	13	46

NOTE :— (i) The Ministry of Food requires a minimum of 2.5% total fat content in order that manufacturers may qualify for supplementary scales of rationed ingredients in their allocation. There is, however, no statutory standard for fat content.

(ii) The figures “1, 2, 3 and 4”, under the Methylene Blue Test column denote the grading of the provisional overall cleanliness test prescribed by the Minister.

Adulteration.

Sampling of Foods, etc., for this purpose is undertaken by the County Sampling Officer and the following information has been supplied by Police Superintendent Large as to the operation of the Act during 1949 :—

Table 12

Food or drug	No of Samples		Genuine	Not Genuine	Remarks
	Formal	Informal			
New Milk	40	—	40	—	
Beef Sausages	3	—	3	—	
Ice Cream	1	—	1	—	
Whisky ...	1	—	1	—	
Coffee ...	—	1	1	—	
Bronchial Loz.	—	1	1	—	
Marmalade	—	2	2	—	
Custard Powder	—	2	2	—	
Iodine ...	—	2	2	—	
Osyl ...	—	1	1	—	
Plum Jam ...	—	1	1	—	
Flour ...	—	1	1	—	
Sweets ...	—	1	1	—	
Castor Oil	—	1	1	—	
Koray Tablets	—	1	1	—	

It is satisfactory to note that for the third year in succession all samples were genuine.

Bakehouses.

There are seven bakehouses in the Borough but one has not been in use for some time although it is a good modern factory and is ready for use at any time. Satisfactory conditions have been maintained in the others.

Catering and Licensed Trades.

Most of the catering and licensed trades have brought their premises up to a fair standard but improvements are still necessary. In a few cases special difficulties have been met with and there has been some delay. On the whole, very full co-operation has been given by the firms concerned, who are most anxious to better conditions.

Food handling has improved, but with catering staffs continually changing, close watch has to be maintained to prevent careless methods. No complaints have been received from the public, but any justifiable complaints would be appreciated and investigated by this Department.

Food Poisoning.

There were no outbreaks and no cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.

Table 13

1. Inspections for the purpose of provisions as to health.

Premises	No. of Premises in Registr	No. of Inspect'ns	No. of Written Notices	No. of Occupiers Prosecut'd
(i) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	16	14	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	36	16	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excl. outworkers)	5	2	—	—
Total...	57	32	—	—

Table 14

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	No. of Defects Found	No. of Defects Remedied	No. of Defects Referred to by H.M.I H.M.I.		No. of defects in respect of which prosecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness Sec. 1...	4	3	—	1	—
Overcrowding Sec. 2 ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temp. Sec. 3	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation Sec. 4	1	1	—	1	—
Ineffect. drain. of floors Sec 6	1	1	—	1	—
Latrines. Sec. 7					
(a) Insufficient ...	1	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	1	1	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not inc. Homework)	—	—	—	—	—
Total...	10	9	—	3	—

Table 15. Outwork (Sections 110 and 111).

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of outworkers in August List as required	No. of cases of default in sending lists	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	Cases of work in Unwholesome Premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel (Making)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	—	—	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Table 24 shews the incidence of notifiable Infectious Diseases during the year according to age groups. The total number of cases was 46 compared with 57 in 1948, which is a satisfactory reduction.

Diphtheria and Immunisation.

Immunisation figures are shown in Tables 17 to 20. It is very satisfactory to note that as a result of the popularity of diphtheria immunisation there has been no case of the disease in the Borough since 1946 ; this compares with a total of 38 cases in 1920.

It is satisfactory to note that the percentage of children under 15 who have been immunised has increased to 69.3% compared with 64.8% in 1948.

In order to encourage parents still more, to have their children immunised, new, more personal, methods of propaganda are being tried in 1950.

Smallpox and Typhoid.

No contacts were notified during the year.

Infantile Paralysis.

No cases occurred in the Borough in spite of the fact that there was quite an epidemic in England and Wales.

Infectious Diseases in the Primary Schools

Table 16

School	Average No. on Register	Sc. F.	Wh. C.	Ch. Pox	Flu	Mumps	Measles
Primary Council	177	—	—	8	—	—	1
Infants C. of E.	199	1	10	58	3	18	1
Mixed C. of E.	136	—	3	10	—	9	—

Following the recommendations of the Joint Memorandum issued by the Ministries of Health and Education, it was not considered necessary to close any schools because of Infectious Disease.

Disinfection of Premises following Infectious Disease.

The policy of the Council, inaugurated in March, 1947, to issue free soap for cleansing purposes in cases of major infectious disease has been continued during the year and is much appreciated. Premises are also sprayed with disinfectant as a routine measure.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Table 17 **Child Population immunised during 1949**

No of children who completed full course immunisation, 1949	Age at the date of final injection		Total under 15
	0-5 years	5-14 years	
During $\frac{1}{2}$ yr. ending 30.6.49	20	1	21
„ „ 31.12.49	32	8	40
Total	52	9	61

Table 18 **Child Population receiving a maintenance dose during 1949** (i.e. a reinforcing dose a few years after the Primary immunisation).

During half-year ending 30.6.49 ...	—
During half-year ending 31.12.49	101
TOTAL for 1949	101

Table 19 **Immunisation in relation to Child Population**

Children aged 0-15 years immunised up to 31st December, 1949

Age 31.12.49 i.e. born in the year	0+ 1949	1+ 1948	2+ 1947	3+ 1946	4+ 1945	5-9 1940-44	10-14 1935-39	Total un. 15
No. Immunised	2	34	52	49	39	336	284	796
Est. Mid-year pop. 49	468					679		1147
Percentage Im'nised	35.4%					91.4%		% 69.3

Table 20 **Diphtheria notifications and deaths in relation to Immunisation** (Children under 15 years only)

Notifications		Deaths	
Cases Notified	Cases Immunised	Immunised	Not Immunised
—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

Table 21. Tuberculosis—New cases and deaths in 1949

Ages	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1—
1+
5+
10+
15+	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
20+	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
25+	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
35+	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
45+
55+
65+
Age not known	1	...	...	...
Total	1	5	...	...	1	...	...	...

Table 22. No. of cases on Tuberculosis Register as at 31st December for the last 3 years.

Year	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total	per 1000 population
	Male	Female	Male	Female		
1947	14	14	2	6	36	7.8
1948	15	10	2	6	33	6.8
1949	13	15	2	4	34	6.6

Table 23—New Cases and Deaths in the last 3 years.

Year	NEW CASES					DEATHS				
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female		Male	Female	Male	Female	
1947	3	3	...	...	6	3	1	...	...	4
1948	4	1	...	1	6	...	1	...	...	1
1949	1	5	...	...	6	1	...	...	...	1

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 172).

No action has been necessary under the above Regulations and Act.

Rehousing of Tuberculosis Cases.

Owing to the small number of new houses erected, no cases have been re-housed during the year. Cases are very sympathetically considered by the Housing Committee and it is very satisfactory to note that out of 34 persons suffering from tuberculosis 17 are living in Council houses.

Table 24

Notifiable Infectious Diseases in 1949 by age groups

[illegible]

Table 25.

Causes of Death 1949.

(Classified according to the Registrar General's Short List of Causes)

Causes of Death			Male	Female
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	—	—
2	Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	—	—
3	Scarlet Fever	...	—	—
4	Whooping Cough	...	—	—
5	Diphtheria	...	—	—
6	Tuberculosis of the respiratory system...	...	1	—
7	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	—	—
8	Syphilitic Diseases	...	—	—
9	Influenza	...	—	—
10	Measles	...	—	—
11	Ac: polio-myel: & polio-enceph.	...	—	—
12	Ac: inf: enceph:	...	—	—
13	Cancer of buc: cav: & oesoph: (M) uterus (F)	...	2	—
14	Cancer of stomach & Duodenum	...	1	1
15	Cancer of breast	...	—	4
16	Cancer of all other sites	...	4	2
17	Diabetes	...	—	1
18	Inter-cranial vascular lesions	...	1	5
19	Heart Disease	...	16	11
20	Other diseases of circ. system	...	1	—
21	Bronchitis	...	1	—
22	Pneumonia	...	—	—
23	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	—	—
24	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	—	1
25	Diarrhoea, under 2 years	...	1	—
26	Appendicitis	...	—	—
27	Other digestive disorders...	...	1	—
28	Nephritis	...	1	1
29	Puer: & post-abort: sepsis.	...	—	—
30	Other maternal causes	...	—	—
31	Premature Birth	...	—	2
32	Con: mal: birth inj: infant: dis:	...	2	2
33	Suicide	...	1	—
34	Road traffic accident	...	1	1
35	Other violent causes	...	—	—
36	All other causes	...	5	5
Total Deaths			39	36

